

W. DUECKER.
LEATHER STRETCHER.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 25, 1914.

1,120,798.

Patented Dec. 15, 1914.

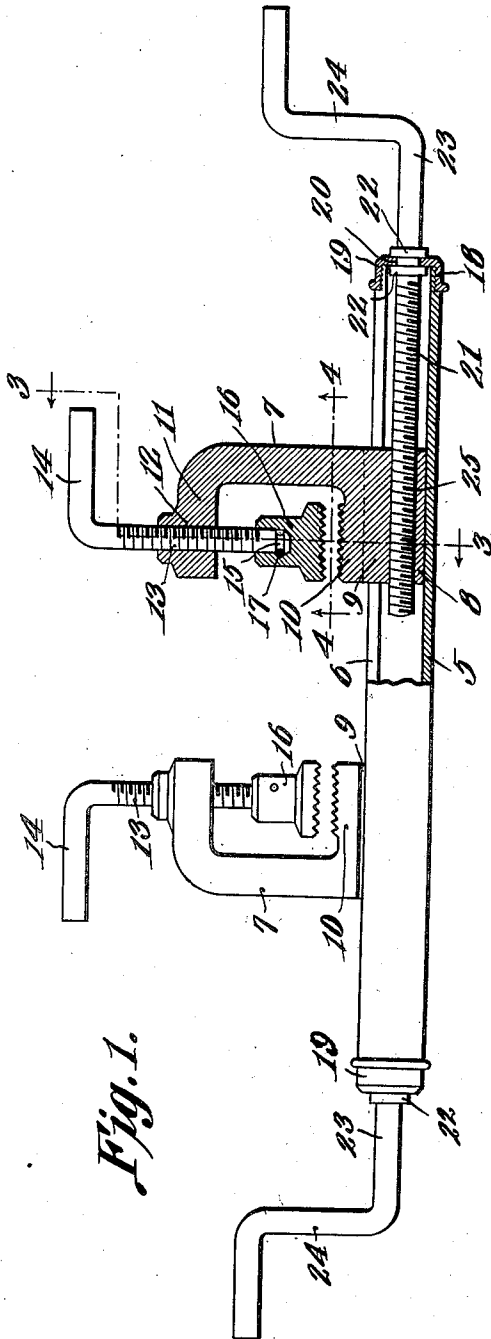


Fig. 1.

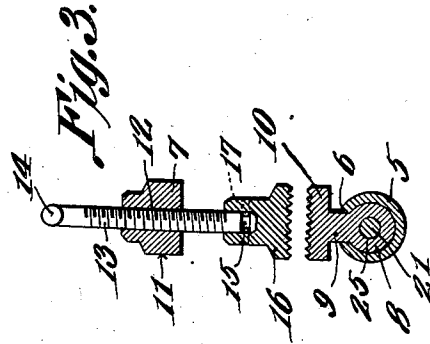


Fig. 3.

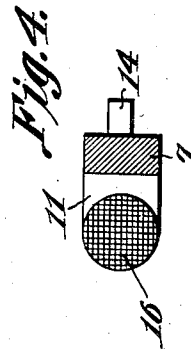


Fig. 4.

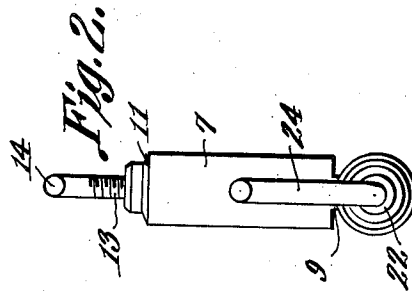


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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WILLIAM DUECKER, OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

LEATHER-STRETCHER.

1,120,793.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 15, 1914.

Application filed May 25, 1914. Serial No. 840,874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DUECKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Memphis, in the county of Shelby and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and useful Leather-Stretcher, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in leather stretchers.

An object of the present invention is to provide a stretcher which is applied to and extends transversely of a hide so as to hold the same firmly in a transverse direction during such time as it is being stretched lengthwise by a stretcher of the usual construction.

A further object is to provide a leather or hide stretcher which is adapted to be applied to and extended transversely of a hide and will require no other means of support than that rendered by the hide itself. A number of the stretchers may be simultaneously used and so arranged that the hide may be stretched in a multiplicity of directions. The stretcher disclosed in the present specification is thus adapted to hold the hide firmly crosswise while being stretched lengthwise and it may also be employed to stretch in a slight manner the hide in a transverse or crosswise direction, thus preventing the formation of kinks or wrinkles extending longitudinally of the hide while it is being stretched.

A further object is to provide a stretcher which will be simple and cheap in construction, embodying a minimum number of parts and thus light in weight so as to require no support other than that received from the article to which it is applied.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, can be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings accompanying this specification and forming a part thereof, the preferred embodiment of my invention is illustrated, in which:—

Figure 1 is a view in elevation of my improved structure with portions represented in section. Fig. 2 is an end view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings in which similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, 5 is a cylindrical pipe which is provided with the longitudinally extending slot 6. The pipe with its slot constitutes a bed or guiding base for the movable blocks 7. The movable blocks are each formed with a lower cylindrical portion 8 which is slidably mounted within the guiding base and constricted to longitudinal or rectilinear motion therein by an upstanding and limited or restricted neck 9. The neck 9 is enlarged to form the body 10 above which is supported the ledge 11. The overhanging ledge 11 is provided with the threaded aperture 12 extending there-through which threadedly receives the shaft 13 therein. The upper extremity of the shaft 13 is offset to form a handle 14, by means of which the shaft may be manually and forcibly rotated. The lower extremity of the shaft is provided with the annular groove 15 extending therearound which rotatably and at the same time non-shiftably receives and engages the movable gripping block 16. The gripping block is provided with the angularly disposed pin 17 which engages the groove 15 of the shaft and holds the two against relative shifting and at the same time allows for their free relative rotation.

The lower surfaces of the gripping blocks 16 and the upper surfaces of the bodies 10 of the movable members are serrated or indented as illustrated in the drawings, so that when leather or allied material is interposed therebetween and pressure is brought to bear upon the movable block, the leather will be positively and rigidly gripped at a plurality of points, preventing the slipping or disfigurement of the leather, and allowing considerable pressure to be exerted thereon. The guide bed or pipe 5 is provided with two such movable members therein, between which leather and allied material is to be stretched. The extremities of the pipe-like guiding base are threaded as at 18 and to which the end pieces 19 are secured. The end pieces 19 are provided with the apertures 20 extending therethrough, through which the threaded shaft 21 extends and which latter is provided with the collars 22 arranged upon both sides of the apertures 20 of the

end pieces, thus preventing the relative shifting of the end pieces and shaft. A similar shaft 23 is arranged at the opposite extremity of the pipe and both of the said shafts are provided with the offset handle ends 24. The shafts 21 threadedly engage the apertures 25 extending through the cylindrical portions 8 of the movable members and are thus adapted to advance or retract the movable members, one with relation to the other, which when leather or allied material is interposed or gripped between the movable members, will stretch the leather locally to thus eradicate or remove local and irregular wrinkles or distortions, which, due to their irregularity will not be removed by a general stretching.

The stretcher herein disclosed is of particular advantage when employed in stretching in a crosswise or transverse direction a hide which is being simultaneously stretched along its longitudinal axis. Thus a hide while being stretched in the usual and longitudinal manner, tends to kink, wrinkle or bag with the axes of the wrinkles or kinks extending longitudinally of the hide. In order to eradicate and prevent such disfigurements, the stretcher as above described is used.

My improved stretcher being light in weight requires no other support than that rendered by the material to which it is attached and the weight of the stretcher will not be sufficient to sag or distort the hide.

Although the principal object of the present invention is to hold the hide during its lengthwise stretching, it may at the same time stretch to a slight degree the hide in a transverse direction, as will be readily appreciated. The pipe-like bed of the stretcher runs underneath the hide and is supported thereby. The serrated faces of the gripping blocks will not mar, cut or disfigure the leather which is being treated.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. A stretcher comprising a tube base with a longitudinal slot, a movable member including a cylindrical head slidably mounted within said tube, a restricted neck carried by said head projecting through said tube slot and contacting with the side walls thereof, a threaded shaft extending axially of and non-shiftably mounted within the said tube, said shaft threadedly engaging said head, and means carried by the movable member adapted to grip pliable material, and means carried by said tube remote from the movable member adapted to engage a second portion of the pliable material for the stretching thereof.

2. A stretcher comprising a tube base with a complete longitudinal slot, a threaded shaft extending axially of said tube, a cap threadedly engaging the end of said tube rotatably and non-shiftably mounting said shaft, a movable member including a cylindrical head positioned within said tube and with a neck projecting therefrom extending through said tube slot and in contact with the side walls thereof, means carried by said restricted neck adapted to grip pliable material and secure the same thereto, a second gripping means carried by said tube base adapted to engage a second portion of the pliable material, the said threaded shaft adapted to advance and retract the movable member with relation to the second mentioned gripping means, for the local stretching of the pliable material.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM DUECKER.

Witnesses:

HENRY DAVIS,
JOE DAVIS.